

Message Text

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43

ACTION SS-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /011 W

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R 151540Z APR 74

FM AMEMBASSY TUNIS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5145

INFO AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

C O N F I D E N T I A L TUNIS 2181

EXDIS

THE FOLLOWING MESSAGE WAS SENT ACTION SECSTATE ON APR 15 1974.
H/W REPEATED FOR OTTAWA'S INFO

QUOTE

C O N F I D E N T I A L TUNIS 2181

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, TS, US, XF

SUBJECT: PRESIDENT BOURGUIBA'S VISIT TO U.S.

1. AS THE DEPARTMENT MAY HAVE BEEN INFORMED BY
TUNISIAN AMBASSADOR ALI HEDDA, GOT HAS BEEN IN
PROCESS OF LINING UP DATES FOR PRESIDENT BOURGUIBA'S
VISIT TO CANADA. CANADIAN AMBASSADOR TELLS ME
THAT CANADIAN GOVERNMENT WOULD FIND IT MORE CON-
VENIENT FOR PRESIDENT BOURGUIBA TO VISIT OTTAWA
EARLY IN FIRST WEEK IN JUNE (I.E. BEFORE PRESIDENT
BOURGUIBA'S VISIT TO WASHINGTON) RATHER THAN LATTER.
ACCORDINGLY, TUNISIANS ARE NOW CONSIDERING PROPOSING
BOURGUIBA VISIT CANADA JUNE 3-4, ARRIVING WASHINGTON
MORNING JUNE 5.

2. I HAVE INFORMD SECSTATE HAMZAOU AND GASSAB,
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PRESIDENT'S CHEF DE CABINET, THAT DEPARTMENT HAS

STAKED OUT DATES OF JUNE 4, 5 AND 6 FOR WHITE HOUSE CONSIDERATION. I SAID WHITE HOUSE MIGHT CONCEIVABLY FIND IT MORE CONVENIENT TO RECEIVE BOURGUIBA ON JUNE 4. NEVERTHELESS, I UNDERTOOK TO PASS ALONG FOREGOING INFORMATION. BOURGUIBA WILL BE PROCEEDING TO CHINA AFTER VISIT TO WASHINGTON AND OTTAWA.

3. ACTION REQUESTED: REQUEST GUIDANCE AS TO WHAT I SHOULD TELL THE TUNISIANS. EITHER I CAN SAY THAT WE PREFER TUNISIANS DEFER FIXING DATES OF CANADIAN VISIT UNTIL WHITE HOUSE DATE HAS BEEN FIXED, OR I CAN RELAY WORD THAT WASHINGTON HAS NO OBJECTION TO LIMITING POSSIBLE DATES OF VISIT TO JUNE 5 OR 6.
SEELYE UNQUOTE
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